

HEAD QUARTERS.

Parish of Iberville, September 8th, 1816.

MILITIA GENERAL ORDERS.

THE governor and commander in chief notices with regret, the neglect and inattention of the several corps to ~~the~~ militia duty, and the consequent disorganization in which they have fallen. The frequent resignation of officers, and the difficulty of replacing them, contribute much to this disorganization, but there is also great reason to believe, that the officers who remain in commission, do not act with all the zeal and activity, which the public service requires. The commander in chief, refraining from further animadversions on the *past*, anticipates for the *future* a zealous co-operation, and a willing obedience on the part of every officer, non-commissioned officer and private. Our country, at this moment, happily reposes in the arms of peace; but in the era in which we live, the surest guarantee of peace, is to be prepared for war. It is therefore ordered that all vacancies in the several regiments be forthwith reported, and in the case of company officers, that they be accompanied with the recommendation (as required by law) of suitable persons to fill the same: that regimental, battalion and company musters be regularly holden, and all absentees be noticed and prosecuted, that due returns be made to the adjutant general, and in which the number and condition of arms will be particularly stated. All sales or transfer of arms, the property of the state, will be punished with all the rigor of the law; and it is *earnestly entreated*, that arms in the hands of the militia, the property of individuals, may be carefully preserved, and put in a condition for service.

The governor and commander in chief reflects with pleasure on the high reputation, which the whole militia of Louisiana, so justly acquired during the late war, and persuades himself, it will always be maintained. He particularly invites and orders the *captain* or *officer* commanding the several companies lately composing the battalion of Orleans Volunteers, and *those* commanding the *respective companies* of Feliciana, Attakapas, St. Charles, Pointe Coupee and Orleans Cavalry, the Feliciana, New-Orleans and Baton Rouge Rifle-men, the Orleans Artillery, the Rapides and La Fourche Volunteer Companies of Light Infantry, immediately to complete, *if necessary*, by voluntary enlistment, their respective companies, taking care not to enrol a greater number than the law permits, and to make due returns to the adjutant general, on or before the first of October next, to hold frequent musters for exercise, and in all things to be prepared in *peace* or in *war* to preserve unimpaired that character for patriotism, valor and a correct discipline, for which these corps have heretofore been distinguished.

(Signed)

WILLIAM C. C. CLAIBORNE.

Adjutant General's Office, New-Orleans, Sept. 13, 1816.

The above is a true copy of the original on file in this office.

Stor. La Nouvelle
adj. Genl